

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tsunenori ARAI et al.
Title: SHEATH REMOVAL HOLE CLOSING DEVICE USING LASER WELDING SCHEME
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/IP2005/003239
Int'l. Filing Date: 2/21/2005
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned
Confirmation Number: Unassigned

PETITION TO ACCEPT COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS UNDER 37 CFR 1.84

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.84(a)(2), Applicants petition for the acceptance of Fig. 20A (color photographs) to be entered in the above-captioned application.

In support thereof, Applicants submit:

- I) A fee in the amount of \$130.00 as is set forth under 37 CFR 1.17(h);
- II) Three (3) sets of color figure set forth above;
- III) An amendment to the specification indicating that the application contains color photographs.

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In the Specification:

On page 1, directly beneath the title, please insert the following:

--The application contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.--

REMARKS

Figure 2 is a photograph showing a sheath removal hole.

Figure 7 is a photograph showing a cross section of a sheath removal hole welded and closed by the laser welding scheme.

Figure 8 is photographs of a stained cross section of a sheath removal hole welded and closed by the laser welding scheme, in which a blue portion represents collagen fibers, a pale red portion represents elastin fibers, a blackish brown portion represents cell nuclei, and the right photograph is a magnification of the left photograph in the rectangle area.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 17 August 2006

By Stephen A. Bent

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